

HAYWARDS HEATH TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd October 2018

M Jeffers (*Chairman*)
S Ellis (*Vice Chairman*)
C Cheney
R Clarke
E. Clayton **
J Knight
A McPherson
H Mundin

* Absent ** Apologies

Also Present: Cllr S. Wickremaratchi.

29. Apologies

E. Clayton – work commitments.

30. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Environment and General Purposes Committee held on, Monday 20th August 2018 were taken as read, confirmed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

31. Substitutes

M. Pulfer for E. Clayton

32. Members' Declarations of Interest

Cllr Ellis declared a personal interest in Item 11 in her role as the Chairman of Haywards Heath in Bloom Committee.

33. Matters Arising

It was noted that Cllr Jeffers, Cllr Knight, Cllr McPherson and the Town Clerk had met with representatives promoting a living Museum suggested to be placed in Haywards Heath Town Hall. The meeting was positive with the idea of a virtual museum being developed as alternative, which would fit better into the Town Hall and its daily operations.

34. Roundabout Maintenance

Members considered the options presented by the Town Clerk for the future of roundabout maintenance in Haywards Heath and decided that they wished to continue with the maintenance of all roundabouts located within the Town Boundary. This was on the grounds that the roundabouts were important to the Town and the larger roundabouts acted as a gateway to the Town. It was agreed to continue on a morale basis knowing that sponsorship collection was to be taken away from all Parish/Town Councils and that the service would be, subject to further negotiations by the Town Clerk, most likely be undertaken at a loss. It was also felt that the many years of investment and hard work into the roundabouts should not be lost.

Members **RESOLVED** to,

Continue with roundabout maintenance for all roundabouts located in Haywards Heath after the 31st March 2019.

35. Release of Cemetery Reserves

The request of the Town Clerk to release earmarked reserves for expenditure on a new Cemetery and ancillary facilities was supported by the Committee who were eager for the Town Council to move forward and realise the delivery of much needed Cemetery provision in Haywards Heath along with its aspirations of opening a Country Park. During debate the Town Clerk outlined the exploratory work that would be undertaken by Cemetery Development Services, which would ascertain if the land was suitable for the placement of the Cemetery and act as a guide for the deliberations with the Environment Agency who are the main agency that could halt the planned development of such. It was also questioned that as the land for all of the proposed community facilities at Hurstwood Lane was being sold to the Town Council as seen, with no indication of what may be below the surfaces, that more due diligence work needed to be undertaken.

Members **RESOLVED** to,

Authorise the use of earmarked reserves, for the development of a new Cemetery for Haywards Heath, on professional studies and reports to gain the support of the Environment Agency through the Reserved Matters of the approved Outline Planning Permission.

Delegate authority to the Town Clerk to spend the monies, in liaison with the Chairman of the Committee, within Standing Orders and Financial regulations.

36. Allotment Holders Meeting

The Chairman updated the Committee on another successful Allotment Holders meeting, where those present seemed generally happy with Town Council services. Members had no comment to make on the minutes nor the generic management plan, and then,

Members **RESOLVED** to;

Note the minutes and actions from the Annual Allotment Holders Meeting and approve the Allotment Site Management Plan as presented.

37. Haywards Heath In Bloom Update

The Chairman of the In-Bloom Committee informed Members that the Tea Party to celebrate the World War 1 canvas project had been a well-attended and was an enjoyable event. It was stated that it was great to see children from the Kangaroo's mixing with the residents from local nursing homes at the event. It was noted that the canvasses would be displayed in the library and then move on to St Wilfred's Church for the remembrance weekend. Special thanks were given by Cllr Eilis to Cllr Jeffers and the Brenda Gulliver who had supported her on the day. It was also noted that the litter picks were becoming more popular with the next one planned for the 8th of December, which was being promoted by a young lady who was undertaking her Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Members **NOTED** the update.

38. Items Agreed as Urgent by the Chairman

The Chairman allowed two items of urgent business, both presented by the Town Clerk. Firstly, it was noted that a grant of £250 had been awarded to the Town Council to light the Town Beacon in Victoria Park on the 11th November 2018, which would be passed to the Haywards Heath Community CIC who were lighting the Beacon as part of the Battle's Over event.

Secondly, it was noted that unfortunately due to land registry issues Muster Green could not be registered for Centenary Fields in Trust status.

The meeting closed at 8.28pm